

Central Intelligence Agency



Washington, D.C. 20505

21 December 2018

Ms. Emma Best
MuckRock News
DEPT MR 61163
411A Highland Avenue
Somerville, MA 02144-2516

Reference: F-2018-02655

Dear Ms. Best:

On 1 November 2018, the office of the Information and Privacy Coordinator received your 22 October 2018 response to our 2 October 2018 letter pertaining to your 25 September 2018 Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request for the following records: **damage assessments relating to or mentioning the Church Committee and its various disclosures. Please include but do not limit the response to predictions of damage and fallout in advance of testimony and/or authorized official disclosures.**

Please be advised that our regulations only allow requesters to appeal denials of information, no records located responses, fee waiver denials, and expedited processing. For your information, Agency regulations addressing appeal rights are located in subparts 1900.42(a) of title 32 of the Code of Federal Regulations. We apologize for any confusion, but this will allow you if you desire the chance to challenge our final determination by filing an administrative appeal.

Your request as written is quite broad and cannot be searched as it lacks specificity. As set forth in the FOIA, a proper FOIA request must "reasonably describe" the records sought. Pursuant to CIA's FOIA regulations, set forth at 32 CFR Part 1900, "reasonably described" means that the records must be described sufficiently to enable professional employees familiar with the subject matter to locate responsive information with a reasonable amount of effort.

Therefore, we recommend that you describe the information you seek in a manner which will allow us to locate responsive records with a reasonable amount of effort. In our experience, this equates to narrowing or detailing the specifics about the subject of your request. For example, if possible, **it is helpful to provide us to describe what information you are seeking, what topic that the Church Committee disclosed that caused the damage and fallout.** If we do not hear from you within the 45 days, we will assume you are not interested in modifying this request and close your request as it is not reasonably described.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Allison Fong", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Allison Fong
Information and Privacy Coordinator